REMARKS

The undersigned appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-5, 7, 8, 14 and 15 and the courtesies extended in the telephone Interview of February 17, 2005.

In the Interview, the following comments were discussed as to the patentability of claims 1, 2, 6, 9-13, 16 and 17 over U.S. Patent No. 4,472,479 to Hayes et al. The rejection of these claims over the Hayes patent for anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) should be withdrawn for the following reasons.

In its broadest form as represented by claim 1, the present invention is directed to a coating composition that reflects colored light. The coating includes an upper layer containing a resinous binder and colorants that emit fluorescent light when exposed to visible light. A lower layer underneath the fluorescent colorant layer contains a resinous binder and light absorbing particles. When the coating composition is exposed to a first light level, the coating exhibits a first colored appearance that is dominated by the absorbance of light by both (1) the colorants in the upper layer and (2) the light absorbing particles in the lower layer. At a second light level, however, the coating composition exhibits a second colored appearance that is dominated by the fluorescent light exhibited by the colorants of the upper layer. The composition of an upper layer containing fluorescent colorants and a lower layer containing light absorbing particles and the property of exhibiting two-colored appearance depending on the intensity of light is not taught or suggested by the Hayes patent.

The Hayes patent discloses a ribbon substrate coated with a lower layer containing barrier coat pigment (reflective pigment) and an upper layer containing fluorescent pigment. The Office Action argues that the barrier pigments taught by Hayes would inherently absorb some light and would meet the limitations of the claimed invention. The Office Action has thus equated the reflective pigments of the Hayes patent with the light absorbing particles of the present invention. The barrier pigments of the Hayes patent are finally divided reflective pigments which "do not shift the wavelength of the fluorescent light" (col. 2, lines 1-4) and "which do not

reshift the wavelength of fluorescent light" (col. 3, lines 40-42). Nowhere in the Hayes patent is there any consideration given to inclusion of light absorbing particle in the lower layer.

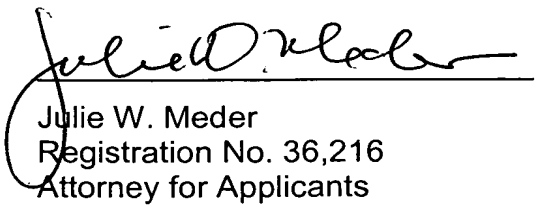
The goal of the fluorescent ribbon disclosed in the Hayes patent is to provide a coating composition on a ribbon which receives incident light that is not absorbed by the underlying substrate. As such, the Hayes patent teaches away from absorbing light to any significant amount by the components of the coating compositions of the ribbon. Reflective pigments which do not shift the wavelength of fluorescent light are non-light absorbing. Accordingly, the Hayes patent fails to teach or suggest the claimed coating composition having an upper layer of fluorescent colorants and a lower layer of light absorbing colorants where the coating composition exhibits two colored appearances depending on the light level incident on the coating composition.

Allowance of all of claims 1-17 is respectfully requested.

Please direct all correspondence to:

Diane R. Meyers
PPG Industries, Inc.
One PPG Place
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15272
Telephone: 412-434-2931
Facsimile: 412-434-4292

Respectfully submitted,



Julie W. Meder
Registration No. 36,216
Attorney for Applicants

PPG Industries, Inc.
One PPG Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15272
Telephone: (412) 434-3798
Facsimile: (412) 434-4292

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
March 10, 2005